

JPRS 79308

27 October 1981

Mongolia Report

No. 333



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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MONGOLIAN DEPENDENCY ON USSR, RELATIONS WITH PRC EXAMINED

Paris LE MONDE in French 27, 28, 29 Aug 81

[Article by Daniel Vernet: "Mongolia, Buffer or Link?"]

[27 Aug 81 p 5]

[Text] I. Development Under Tutelage

Darhan--Twenty years ago, there were only a few yurts here alongside the Moscow-Ulaanbaatar railroad. The city, located 300 km from the capital, now has 52,000 residents, including 15,100 foreigners, and its prospects for development are promising. Darhan, the second industrial center of the Mongolian People's Republic and a creation of the USSR, is still called the "city of friendship." With its graceless geometric buildings, its broad avenues cutting across the steppe and its concrete "shopping center," it looks like many communities in the Soviet Far East.

Without the cooperation of its "Big Brother" to the north and other countries in the socialist community, Mongolia would hardly have been able to create its agro-industrial society, which the official platform of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) established as one of its goals, much less send a cosmonaut into space, as it did in March. Darhan's very site, chosen in cooperation with the Soviets, is not far from the border with the USSR.

These ties, called "mutually advantageous" or "disinterested fraternal" aid, depending on the circumstances, exist in all sectors of economic activity. The Mongolian subsoil is extremely rich; it contains almost all metals (copper, nickel, zinc, tin and fluorine, of which it produces 300,000 tons annually, entirely exported to the USSR); it contains coal and lignite and certainly sizable petroleum reserves, judging from the number of deposits outlined on the maps in Ulaanbaatar's museum of history. None of these reserves has yet been exploited. The official reason given is that the exploration of resources has not been completed and that their development would require large investments. But the Soviets, without whom nothing is possible, do not seem very eager to exploit these deposits for the time being. They prefer to provide Mongolia with most of its energy needs.

On the other hand, the MPR lacks manpower. The working population represents only 370,000 people, including 130,000 shepherds, for a country three times as large as France and with a total of 1.6 million inhabitants. Persons less than 15 years

old constitute 44 percent of the population. The government encourages births, strictly bans contraception and is simultaneously trying to attract young people to industrial centers by offering them certain advantages (lodging, compensation for moving, housing subsidies, etc.) and to stem a rural exodus that would hamper rural development. This delicate balance would result from a policy which, in any case, is intended to settle the nomads either by turning them into workers or by placing them on collective farms.

Industry is destined to play a larger role in providing national revenue: 14 percent in 1960, 30 percent in 1980, 40 percent in 1990. In CEMA, to which it has belonged since 1962, Mongolia ranks third in terms of its rate of development, after Bulgaria and Romania, and planners expect its growth to accelerate following the development of new natural resources.

Transformation of Lifestyles

Although average wages are not very significant: 500 tugriks or 750 francs per month,* the increase in the number of private vehicles in Ulaanbaatar (+32 percent between 1972 and 1977) and motorcycles (76 percent), the increase in housing construction and the development of the telephone system are evidence of transformed lifestyles, at least in the case of urban residents.

In rural areas, the establishment of cooperatives began in the late [illegible] with the defeudalization movement that was directed against Lamaist monasteries, which owned all the land before the revolution. This gave rise to excesses, resulting in the Mongolian leader at that time, Choybalsan, later being christened the "Mongolian Stalin." In protest, several million head of livestock were slaughtered and the present livestock level is barely back to what it was before the war. The cooperative system became widespread in 1959. There are now 2,690 [sic] cooperatives throughout Mongolia.

In this country where livestock breeding is still the main economic activity despite industrialization efforts, livestock production is stagnant: 24 million animals, including 5 million privately owned by 208,000 families. With 1.6 million inhabitants, this is a fine ratio: 16 animals to each person, with 2 horses per inhabitant. The main problem is overcoming the winter and limiting livestock losses during the cold season.

Measures are being taken to improve the training of breeders and to encourage competition. Thus a shepherd who produces 1 lamb per ewe for 5 years is freely entitled to 1 yurt, the felt tents in which most Mongolians still live. Livestock breeding, which accounts for three-fourths of agricultural production, is not only essential for the country's own supplies; it is also an important part of foreign trade, due to the exportation of carpets, felt articles, hides, etc.

In this sector as well, the Soviet Union's aid is considerable for both the construction of state farms and for agricultural equipment or technicians' training.

*1 tugrik is equal to 1.50 francs at the official exchange rate.

As a crossroads of two worlds, agrarian and industrial, and of two lifestyles, nomadic and proletarian, Mongolia has unquestionably entered the industrial age. It has done so with the aid and support of the socialist camp and under the supervision of an omnipresent Soviet Union. Half of all industrial production comes from factories installed by the Soviets (up to 80 percent, or even 100 percent in the case of extractive and energy industries). Mongolia provides the raw materials and a certain percentage of the labor, while the USSR supplies technology, equipment and training.

Several Soviet ministries have "fully authorized representatives" in local government agencies, where they take part in preparing development plans. "Systematic consultation" provides the Soviets with broad authorization to supervise Mongolian economic policy, enabling them to reject projects which do not suit them and to develop those which could be profitable for them.

But there is another side to the coin. Wedged in between China, with which it has poor relations, and the USSR, the MPR resembles a "preserve." It depends entirely on CEMA, not only for its supplies of manufactured goods, but for its very survival, since it imports many foodstuffs. Ninety-two percent of its foreign trade is with CEMA members and 80 percent with the USSR alone, which thus has an actual monopoly on Mongolian trade.

The structure of the Mongolian balance of trade is typical of underdeveloped countries: capital goods and manufactured products each represent one-third of imports, but only 9 percent of exports, which mainly include raw materials and agricultural produce. Such goods are often exported at the expense of the domestic market, whose needs are far from being satisfied.

In spite of everything, the Mongolian trade balance deficit is increasing, along with its indebtedness to the USSR and other CEMA countries. Even if they were inclined to do so, the Mongolians would hardly be in a position to follow an independent economic policy.

The example of the copper and molybdenum combine at Erdenet, which was put into service in early 1979, is quite significant in this regard. The combine, which is located at the site of the largest deposit of copper and molybdenum in Asia and which is probably one of the 10 largest mining centers in the world, represents an investment of 1 billion rubles. Its construction required 5 years. Representatives of 170 Soviet cities participated in this project; 414 Soviet plants supplied equipment. The city now has 30,000 residents and 2 schools, one Mongolian and the other Soviet. Thirteen thousand Soviet and 3,000 Mongolian workers participated in building the combine, the city and infrastructures. The plant itself employs 2,628 persons, 1,660 of whom are from the USSR. Extraction of ores currently amounts to 8 million tons annually. This figure will be doubled during the present 5-year plan and Erdenet's production will then account for half of all Mongolian industrial production by 1975 [as published]. The enterprise is a joint 50/50 Soviet-Mongolian project. A fine example of fraternal aid.

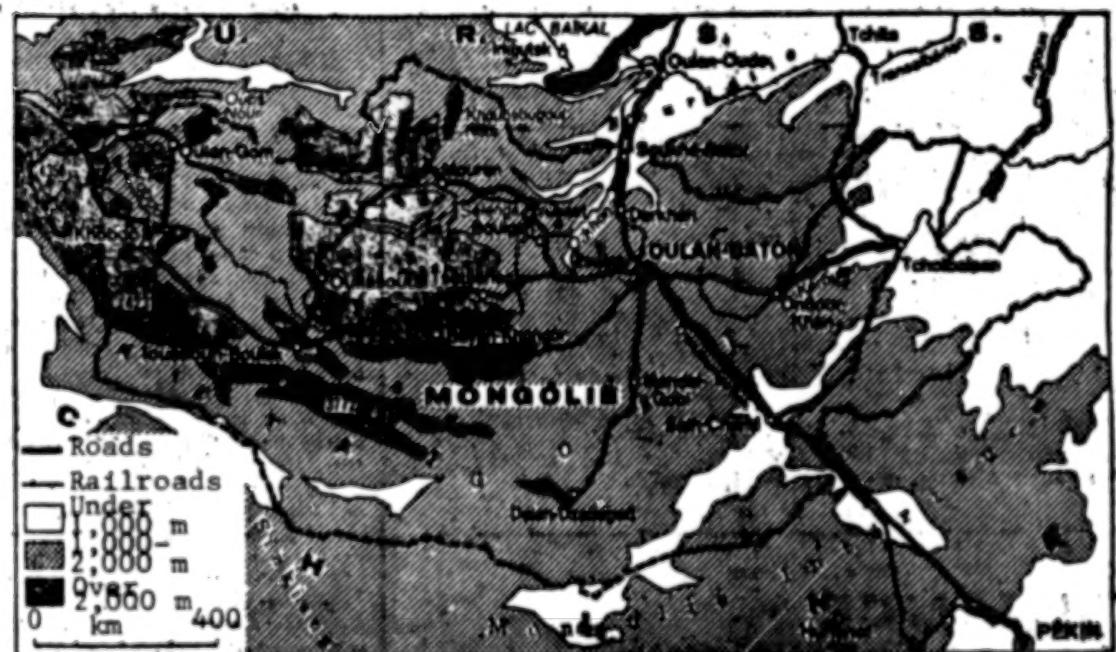
The Soviet Monopoly

Yet as the Soviets themselves candidly state, Erdenet will make it possible "to increase Mongolia's exporting capacity." To repay the amount of their investment

in the combine, the Mongolians will in fact export all of their production. It is not known exactly for how long. But the period of time matters little, since in any case they are unable to process the ores locally and will therefore always be obliged to sell them to the USSR. One final detail: the site is guarded by the Soviet Army.

Mongolia's exclusively CEMA-oriented trade does not leave much room for other countries. Mongolia's geographic location no doubt does not lend itself to trade with the rest of the world, but the Soviets, who are not eager to see their monopoly undermined, are doing their utmost to eliminate possible competition.

Such economic relations between a great power and a small country formerly had a name under different skies and under different circumstances. However, a comparison with the West's colonial period is not totally relevant. The USSR has not just transformed Mongolia into a supplier of raw materials which it needs and destroyed its traditional economic structure. Even under tutelage, the MPR's development is real and is affecting the population's standard of living.



The former Chinese province of Outer Mongolia, Mongolia became independent in 1921 before proclaiming itself a people's republic in 1924. It has an area of 1.565 million square km and a population of 1.685 million inhabitants, more than 400,000 of whom reside in Ulaanbaatar, the capital. The main economic activity of this high plateau, whose average altitude is 1,580 meters, is livestock breeding (horses,

cattle, sheep, goats, camels, totaling 24.2 million heads) with related food and textile industries (wool, leather). Mongolian agriculture produces grain, potatoes and vegetables. Its subsoil contains coal, copper, fluorine, tungsten, tin, gold and lead. Mongolia has a common border of 2,730 km with the USSR and 4,300 km with China; 80 percent of its foreign trade is with the USSR and the rest is with other communist countries. Mr Yumjaagiyn Tsedenbal has been the leader of the sole party since 1958 and chief of state since 1974. (source: EUROPA YEAR BOOK, 1981)

[28 Aug 81 p 5]

[Text] II. Limits of "Sovietization"

Although the industrialization efforts made under the USSR's supervision have increased for 20 years, livestock breeding is still the principal economic activity of the MPR. But the lack of manpower and the rigidity of bureaucratic structures, modeled on those of the USSR, are hampering its development. (LE MONDE of 27 August)

Ulaanbaatar--A brand-new Czechoslovak bus stops suddenly behind a goat leaping across the asphalt road: an image of two worlds confronting each other. The heart of Ulaanbaatar is only a few hundred meters away. On each side of the road, wooden fences conceal yurt encampments. Through the separated planks, tents can be seen inside small enclosures, sometimes with a few domestic animals. The doors of the enclosures are decorated with multicolored geometric designs. Water has to be obtained from quite a distance away, by crossing muddy areas. More than half of Ulaanbaatar's inhabitants still live in yurts. Despite a rather high rate of construction, there is still a shortage of prefabricated, concrete Soviet-type apartment buildings in which each family is entitled to 2 rooms with 6 square meters per person.

The unofficial but tolerated market is held every Sunday a short distance outside the city, still behind wooden fences. The lower classes of Ulaanbaatar gather here. At the entrance, peasants recognizable from their traditional dress have tied up a camel, while others wait beside small horses with saddles adorned with silver pommels. The merchants inside are selling a few pitiful ordinary household items or clothing made at home; others clandestinely offer jewels, statuettes and precious stones, many of which still come from the monasteries and temples closed at the time of land collectivization. To make a deal, they lead their customers into secluded areas, far from the view of the militia, who constantly supervise all this trade that is hardly in keeping with the standard practices of the socialist system.

Quarters Reserved for Soviets

In Ulaanbaatar's wide streets, the contrast is no less striking between urban residents in Western-style dress, wearing clothes that are often elegant and finely cut, and men and women from the country, wearing their tight-fitting "del" and walking slightly stooped over, with their hands crossed behind their backs and their faces almost black from the wind and sun of the high plateaus.

Soviet experts and officers live with their families in special quarters. Opposite the Soviet Army barracks in eastern Ulaanbaatar, they occupy large apartment buildings whose appearance must be familiar to them. They have their own stores with

Soviet goods, which are closed to Mongolians, their own restaurants, their schools, their hospitals, their movie theater on the capital's main square and even their own city buses so that they don't have to mix with the local population. The Soviets, who stay in Mongolia for 1 or 2 years, are apparently very satisfied, since their standard of living is a good deal higher than what it would be in large Russian cities. For them, supplies are better and goods and clothing are more varied and of higher quality.

The Soviets, both military and civilian, are present everywhere. But they are not ashamed of this presence. They stand out quite conspicuously in the streets of Ulaanbaatar and a Soviet soldier checks vehicles leaving the capital by the southern route.

The Mongolians and Soviets live side by side, without mixing and almost unconscious of each other, despite the fine declarations of friendship between the two peoples. There are slogans everywhere: at the entrance to the city, before the Bridge of Peace (constructed not so long ago by the Chinese), while Mr Tsedenbal and Mr Brezhnev congratulate each other, praising "indestructible Soviet-Mongolian friendship."

Yet during a recent conference of the Association for Mongolian-Soviet Friendship, which brought together 350,000 members (out of a total population of 1.5 million inhabitants), its chairman issued an appeal for "intensifying the education of Mongolian working people--and the younger generation in particular--in the principles of proletarian internationalism, in the spirit of the glorious traditions of proven Soviet-Mongolian friendship, in the spirit of total intransigence toward any demonstration of nationalism, chauvinism, anticomunism and anti-Sovietism."

The Soviet model is penetrating every aspect of Mongolian society and affecting all spheres of economic activity. Thus the uniforms of school children, like those of soldiers, come directly from the USSR. With ribbons in their hair and their white aprons over black or brown dresses, little Mongolian girls resemble their Soviet counterparts. Ulaanbaatar's buses come from Czechoslovakia, its taxis are Soviet Volgas painted green with a black-and-white checkerboard pattern, and judging from their condition they have probably already been reconditioned in the USSR. All the rituals of the new Soviet celebrations have been adopted in Mongolia, as well as the major dates in Soviet history.

Triple Line

Other customs have been adopted. At the Ulaanbaatar Hotel, each floor is supervised by a concierge, who gives guests their keys and notes their comings and goings, as in all Soviet hotels. The old woman in charge of our floor wore several rows of medals on her "del," which she said she received because she is "a mother of a large family and a good policewoman." The international restaurant serves Russian cuisine, mineral water from the Caucasus Mountains, Georgian wines and vodka. Only the bar-discotheque is shielded from any Soviet influence. It is strictly reserved for foreigners (not including Soviet citizens): at the end of the evening, a Soviet military patrol makes sure that no soldier has violated the regulation.

Stores also operate on the very Soviet "triple-line" principle: the first line is for selecting the merchandise, the second for paying for it and the third line for receiving it. The same economic system produces the same deficiencies: spare-parts

inventories have not kept up with the increase in the number of private vehicles and the first vice president of the state bank lost his job in 1977 after abusing his official position to obtain spare parts

The Mongolians can watch two television channels: one in Russian, transmitted by the Soviet Orbita system, and the national channel, which also offers programs in Russian. Mimicry is pushed to such an extreme that televised news is presented in exactly the same way as Soviet news, as though it were a literal translation.

Countless examples of a general phenomenon could be mentioned. In Ulaanbaatar's main bookstore, the window display of new books is made up almost entirely of works in Russian. Actually, it is in education that "Sovietization" is most advanced. Use of the Cyrillic script was established in 1941, similar to what took place as early as the 1930's in the Buriat-Mongolian ASSR on the other side of the border. But the new system's introduction did meet with some resistance. According to a former Yugoslav ambassador, who told of presenting his credentials in 1957, the Mongolian chief of state at that time, Sambuu, wrote with the former alphabet.* The Cyrillic script has since become widespread and the study of former Mongolian writing is now limited to specialists.

Elementary and secondary education lasts 10 years, as in the USSR. In principle, Russian courses are compulsory after the second year, from the age of 8. Russian courses are required at the university level and nearly half of all material, including Mongolian literature, is taught in the language of "Big Brother." Is this because students do not display excessive enthusiasm for learning Russian? Is it a form of passive resistance to "Sovietization"? Mastery of the language nevertheless does not appear to be widespread, even among young people

Official efforts are no doubt being made to maintain and even to develop traditional culture. In Ulaanbaatar, we attended a "classical" opera in terms of its form and characters, but its theme was nevertheless taken from revolutionary mythology. On another evening, at a concert of ancient instruments, the orchestra pleased Yugoslav guests by playing the "Beautiful Blue Danube" The deputy minister of culture admits there could be a contradiction between maintaining a traditional culture highly oriented toward religious or mythical themes and the development of new cultural codes, imported from Russia whether they are wanted or not.

French Authors Translated from Russian

Knowledge of foreign literature is also obtained almost necessarily through Russian. About 50 French authors, including Jules Verne and Maupassant (also best sellers among Soviet editions), have been translated from Russian since no French-Mongolian dictionary exists. Such a dictionary is in preparation, but Ulaanbaatar officials hesitate to send linguists to Paris, although university exchanges are--relatively--developed.

*Veljko Micunovic: "Journees de Moscou 1956-1958" [Moscow Days, 1956-1958], Robert Laffont.

All of these outward signs of "Sovietization" suggest, a priori, that Mongolia is a closely interwoven part of the Soviet whole. The plane that connects Moscow and Ulaanbaatar 4 times weekly, after 11 hours flight time and 2 stopovers, is awaited impatiently. Together with the Moscow-Peking train, it constitutes Mongolia's only link with the outside world. It is always filled with experts from Eastern countries, Soviet soldiers, women and children on visits. "This is not international class," the Soviet captain seated next to us said when Aeroflot's Tupolev 154 touched down at Ulaanbaatar. We could not tell whether his statement was a political judgment or applied solely to the hard landing.

Noting that the Mongolian People's Republic is "the 16th federated republic of the Soviet Union" clashes with the Mongolians' national pride and feeling of independence. The Soviet presence has not taken on the same forms as in the outlying republics of the USSR. There is no "Russification" here, in the strict sense of the term. There is no direct attempt at assimilation, permanent settlement or, a fortiori, integration of a Russian colony. Mixed marriages are rather rare; Soviet-Mongolian couples are generally the result of acquaintances made in the USSR, where many young Mongolians go to study.

Mongolia instead provides evidence that the Soviet model is a result of exportation, with all its rituals, its type of organization and social relationships. And the exportation of this "model" is probably enough to assure the Soviets of the reliability of the two peoples' "indestructible friendship." The Mongolians of the MPR, formerly Outer Mongolia, to a large extent have learned how to preserve their national character, unlike their Buriat brothers (in what was formerly called Buriat-Mongolia) and those in Inner Mongolia, which belongs to China. The price is close economic and political ties with the USSR.

[29 Aug 81 p 5]

[Text] III. Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea

Despite "Sovietization" efforts, which cannot be dissociated from aid provided by the USSR, the Mongolian People's Republic has learned to preserve its "national character." Internationally, however, its ties with the USSR, as much as its ancestral rivalry with China, place it clearly in the Soviet orbit (LE MONDE of 27, 28 August).

Ulaanbaatar--Ulaanbaatar's department store looks like a twin of the one in Wang Fu Jing Street in Peking. It was built by the Chinese in the 1950's when relations between the two countries were still all right. Today it looks like an exhibition hall for all production of socialist countries: Romanian sunglasses, Vietnamese orange marmalade, Korean paint and even spools of thread in all colors, manufactured in Leningrad but practically impossible to find in the USSR. At the foot of the large stairways, however, there are long lines next to merchants offering apples from China.

This is almost all that remains of Sino-Mongolian trade, which was relatively flourishing in the 1950's and still represented 18 percent of the MPR's foreign trade in 1960. Sino-Mongolian trade is now regulated by an annual agreement (as is Soviet-Chinese trade), but its volume is very low because, as one official told us, "the Chinese want to sell high and buy low."

The Mongolians could talk forever about the Chinese. There is hardly a conversation in which the Peking threat is not mentioned. In accepting an ambassador's credentials, Mr Tsedenbal, chief of state and first secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, recently complained that the Chinese were driving sick animals into Mongolia to contaminate the herds

Rivalry with Chinese Empire

The history of the Mongolians and Chinese, two peoples representing two great Asian civilizations, one nomadic and the other sedentary, has of course always been marked by confrontation and rivalry, as well as by coexistence during rare periods. The Mongolians even rebuke the Chinese for trying to "annex" Genghis Khan. When we asked a historian, the deputy chairman of Ulaanbaatar's Academy of Sciences, whether he considered the Mongolian People's Republic to be the heir of Genghis Khan, he replied: "Yes. Mongolian independence dates from that time."

This positive assessment of the great conqueror's historical role has not failed to raise problems with Soviet historians, who usually emphasize its "imperialistic" side (in regard to the Russians). But Mongolians and Soviets agree that the "anti-popular character of the articles by Maoist theorists on Genghis Khan constitute an alarming political fact." By transforming Genghis Khan into a Chinese hero, Peking is trying to rewrite history for political purposes. As the deputy chairman of the Academy of Sciences told us, "Genghis Khan is strictly a Mongolian hero." If his grandson unified the Chinese nation and created the empire, it was Genghis Khan and his successors who conquered China; they did not leave China to conquer Mongolia, which was occupied in the late 17th century not by the Hans, but by the Manchus. "The influence of Chinese civilization on Mongolia has been very slight," the historian continued. "I am not saying that because our relations are poor, but because it is a fact."

Modern Mongolian history is also characterized by its rivalry with the Chinese Empire and the Mongolians have always sought aid and protection from the Russians (or the Soviets). Mongolia has always been between the devil and the deep blue sea. This tradition still affects the present situation.

After the revolution of 1921 and the proclamation of the People's Republic in 1924, Comintern agents moved to Mongolia, where they implemented the policy decided in Moscow with more or less success. Thus at the same time that Stalin was launching forced land collectivization in the USSR, the Mongolian leaders were starting a ruthless "defeudalization" process which they were forced to reverse after a few years in view of the resistance of shepherds, who were not all reactionary lamas.

If Mongolian independence, under Soviet tutelage, did not please the Chinese Nationalist Government, it did not suit Mao Zedong and the communists either. The Mongolians always quote what Mao said to Edgar Snow in 1936: "After the people's revolution in China, Mongolia will return to greater China of its own accord."

The Soviets are instead tempted to do the opposite: to integrate so-called Outer Mongolia into the USSR, in contrast to Inner Mongolia, which is a Chinese province. During the war, they annexed the territory of Tannu Tuva in northeastern Mongolia. But Stalin finally abandoned his project, since he considered it preferable for the MPR to play the role of a buffer state in that part of Asia between the two major powers, the Soviet Union and China.

In 1945, Mongolian independence was confirmed by a referendum ordered by the Yalta Conference. Although they sent an ambassador to Ulaanbaatar as soon as they rose to power, the Chinese communists continued to put pressure on the Soviets to "give" them Mongolia in appreciation for Chinese participation in the Korean War. They renewed their demand several times in the 1950's during conversations with Stalin and Khrushchev. The Mongolians readily cite these facts to illustrate the continued existence of the "Chinese threat."

Some people in Ulaanbaatar say that if Mao's successors have made some changes in domestic policy, their foreign policy is still dominated by the same principles. They are continuing the annexationist strategy of the Manchu emperors. The Mongolians also distrust the attitude of Peking's leaders toward national minorities, including Mongolians in particular, in Chinese territory. They contend that the idea of Mongolian identity has been destroyed by "sinicization," that the Hans have perpetrated a "quasi-genocide" of Mongolian communists and that the living conditions of Mongolians in China are worse than under feudalism.

All cultural relations between Inner and Outer Mongolia were cut at the time of the Cultural Revolution. The "Mongol People" now number 6 to 7 million persons in the Buriat-Mongolian ASSR (part of the USSR and which was never conquered by the Manchus because it already belonged to the tsarist empire), the MPR and Inner Mongolia. In Ulaanbaatar, it is said that MPR leaders have never been tempted to follow a "pan-Mongolian" policy, but that such a movement was encouraged by Japan after the October Revolution to upset communist Russia.

Some vague impulses of this kind developed after 1949 in Inner Mongolia, which could have become an autonomous state by subsequently reuniting with the MPR. These attempts were not pursued.

Ancestral Hatred

Actually, the improvement of relations between Mongolia and China was a result of normalization of relations between the USSR and China. The Sino-Soviet split forced Mongolia to choose sides and to move even closer to Moscow, whereas in the 1950's Mongolia had taken advantage of the climate of detente to increase its room to maneuver.

Mr Tsedenbal had lost his position as general secretary of the party for 4 years to Mr Dashiyn Damba, who was removed in 1959 for "nationalistic tendencies." The first effects of the Sino-Soviet crisis were starting to emerge. In 1962, Mr Tsedenbal again signed a border treaty with Chou En-Lai, but 2 years later Chinese workers, then very numerous in Mongolia, were suddenly recalled, leaving behind incomplete project sites which would not be turned back over to the Mongolians until 1973.

When Mao died, the anti-Chinese controversy in the Mongolian press stopped for several months. It resumed at the same time as in the Soviet press, all of whose arguments were dutifully reiterated. The Mongolians sometimes even react a few days after the Soviet press to Chinese statements concerning them directly.

The Chinese attack on Vietnam in February 1979 obviously aroused intense fears in Mongolia, which has a common border of 4,000 km with China. The Mongolians consider

themselves a front-line nation, especially since they constantly denounced border incidents in which Chinese soldiers crossed deep into Mongolian territory to "hunt and kill livestock." The secretary of the Union of Journalists condemned "Peking's aggressive policy toward both our country and Kampuchea." Another political official added that the Sino-Vietnamese conflict demonstrated that "the Chinese are capable of anything, even of taking up arms against a socialist country. That is a lesson to us." The Mongolians claim that 2.4 million Chinese soldiers are poised along their northern borders.

To a large extent, this ancestral hatred and fear of the Chinese explain why the presence of the Soviets is rather readily accepted. As representatives of an ancient civilization which conquered Asia and part of Europe in the 13th century, the Mongolians have a slight superiority complex in regard to the Soviets, who protect them from a hereditary enemy, just as they saved them in 1939 from the Japanese invasion.

How many Soviets are in Mongolia? Their number is secret. They vary from 300,000, according to Chinese sources, to 50,000, according to some Western observers. The size of the Mongolian Army has been reduced, although military expenditures swallow up about 15 percent of the budget, which is a lot for a small developing country. According to Western sources, the army is comprised of 2 28,000-man brigades equipped with 130 tanks, to which must be added 18,000 soldiers of internal and border troops, a battalion equipped with SAMs [surface-to-air missiles] and the Air Force, with its 2,000 men (who also operate the civilian air line) and its few Migs. Military service is required for 3 years.

Relations with the West

"The whole world is well aware," a Mongolian colonel wrote in the RED STAR, the Soviet Army newspaper, "that after its units have carried out their internationalist missions, the Soviet Government has always recalled them from Mongolian territory ... the issue of the need for Soviet military units to stay here will no longer be raised as soon as the reason for their presence has been eliminated, i.e., when the Chinese leadership once and for all abandons its annexationist policy in regard to the MPR and when Sino-Mongolian relations have been normalized." This is not something that will happen right away.

Soviet-Chinese negotiations, which began in late 1979 and were suspended by Peking following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, had aroused only a very slim hope. The issue of Mongolia and the Soviet presence in that country had been raised by the Chinese. "Whatever the case," a Mongolian official told us, "negotiations between Moscow and Peking will have a favorable effect on Sino-Mongolian relations only if the Chinese abandon their claims and intentions concerning us." Among the population, the only major interest in Chinese relations is the possible resumption of trade, whose sudden drop in the early 1960's has deprived the Mongolians of thermos bottles, silk goods, porcelain, etc.

It still seems like a far-off day when normalization of Sino-Soviet relations will enable Mongolia to regain a little room to maneuver and to slightly increase its freedom of movement. For the time being, it has no choice. It is totally dependent on the Soviet Union for its defense, its economy, its political system, its foreign trade and even its writing.

Mongolia's relations with the West have been reduced to a minimum, although it has been a member of the United Nations since 1961. For the first time in 1979, the minister of foreign affairs paid an official visit to a capitalistic European country, Austria, where he "exchanged views on cooperation." That visit "is evidence of our willingness to develop our relations with countries with a different social system," according to some people in Ulaanbaatar. But the "opening with the West" — will occur only if the Soviets allow it and this does not appear to be on the agenda. Will it be necessary to wait until the French ambassador in Ulaanbaatar abandons his hotel room for an embassy worthy of the name? —

11915
CSO: 3100/957

'MONTSAME' HITS PRC SUPPORT FOR UNITA IN ANGOLA

OW090635 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1425 GMT 8 Sep 81

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 8 Sep (MONTSAME)--A MONTSAME commentator writes:

The Chinese leaders, who readily talk about their unfailing support for the developing states and their common aims, in practice come out hand-in-hand with the racists of the Republic of South Africa and American imperialists in their attempts to deal with the national liberation movement and the progressive regimes of the continent.

So, acting in unison with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, Beijing has continuously armed and continues to arm the mercenaries of the UNITA terrorist group which opposes the lawful government of Angola. The UNITA bandits carry out diversions, murder activists of the MPLA-Labor Party and terrorize the local population. In an interview with the American journal NEWSWEEK, Jonas Savimbi, leader of these bandits, declared that in 1979 alone China supplied 550 tons of arms to UNITA. Presently these bandits are operating as part of the Republic of South Africa Army which is committing aggression against Angola.

The Maoists perfected this hypocritical and provocative policy in their own region. For the past 10 years the Beijing leaders have been expounding on their desire for friendship, peace and goodneighborly relations to all the leaders of the Southeast Asian states while at the same time organizing, arming and supporting various pro-Beijing groups which are waging a struggle against the lawful governments. Groups such as these operate in Indonesia, the Philippines and in Thailand. China is expanding ideological provocations against the countries of this region.

According to the Japanese newspaper SANKEI SHIMBUN broadcasts in Indonesian and Chinese are being made from the Chinese mainland via a relay station in Hainan Island, in which appeals for the overthrow of the government are made. Similar broadcasts are being made to other countries in the region as well.

All of this attests to the fact that the Beijing hegemonists, who diligently pretend to be friend of the young developing countries, are in fact attempting to subvert them to their influence in order to realize their great-power schemes. To fulfill their schemes they do not shy away from alliances with the most reactionary forces --from the racists of the Republic of South Africa to the imperialists of the United States.

CSO: 1820/14

YOUTH PAPER ON ZHAO ZIYANG'S SOUTHEAST ASIAN TOUR

OW141303 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1925 GMT 11 Sep 81

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 11 Sep (MONTSAME)--The youth newspaper DZALUUCHUUDYN UNEN focuses attention on Beijing's doubledealings in relation to the Southeast Asian countries and notes that it was manifested once again during the visits of Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, to the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore. Despite the assurance of this high-ranking Chinese visitor about Beijing's desire to "strengthen the age-old friendship" with these countries, the Chinese premier's visits did not yield the expected results. The Chinese leadership's great-power expansionist line continues to alarm the political and social circles of the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore, the paper writes.

The Mongolian paper emphasized that Beijing's tactic of pitting one Asian country against another became evident as early as in the 60's during the Malaysian-Indonesia conflict. At that time Beijing demanded that Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur give up their plan to establish goodneighborly relations between them. Beijing's "cartographic aggression" also deserves attention. It was recently announced there that a part of the (Klavian) group of islands which are under the constitutional administration of the Philippines, are objects of China's pretensions. The Southeast Asian people, who know Beijing's doubledealings well from their own experience, are not likely to lower their guard because of the promises and false urbanity of the PRC State Council, [premier], the paper says.

CSO: 1820/14

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY GRADUATES AUGMENT LABOR FORCE

New School Year at Vocational Schools

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 31 Aug 1981 1915 GMT

[Text] More than 24,000 boys and girls will be attending classes tomorrow, 1 September, at vocational schools in the MPR. Many of them will be in their first year. They will be studying to become a construction worker, miner, truck driver, millwright, lathe operator, arc welder, etc. Mongolian vocational schools are presently training skilled workers of almost 100 different occupational specialties needed by this country's economy and culture.

The number of young skilled workers entering the work force in People's Mongolia is growing year by year. Considerable credit for this must go to the vocational schools. During the years of the past Sixth Five-Year Plan the ranks of the worker class of the MPR grew by more than 47,000 vocational school graduates. The network of vocational schools is constantly expanding, and their facilities are improving.

Ten Thousand Students

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 9 Sep 1981 1445 GMT

[Text] The number of students enrolled at the Mongolian State University has exceeded 10,000 for the first time. In the new academic year 2,100 boys and girls -- secondary-school graduates and worker youth -- successfully passed the entrance examinations for enrollment at the Mongolian State University.

The scope of activities at our national university is also indicated by the fact that in the 1980-1981 academic year alone it graduated 9,400 students to go to work in our nation's economy. Students at the university are majoring in 60 different fields of specialization, including such modern fields as nuclear physics and computers. The teaching faculty totaled more than 600 professors and instructors. These figures show the growth and development of the Mongolian State University, which will be celebrating its 40th anniversary next year.

3024
CSO: 1819/4

CENTENARY OF BUMTSEND BIRTH MARKED

OW141239 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1935 GMT 11 Sep 81

[Text] Ulaanb atar, 11 Sep (MONTSAME)--The 100th birth anniversary of G. Bumtsend, senior party, state and military figure of the MPR, is being observed today. In an unattributed article devoted to this date UNEN writes that G. Bumtsend was a close comrade-in-arms of D. Sukhe Bator and ardently perceived the idea of the Mongolian people's liberation struggle which began under the influence of Great October.

G. Bumtsend was one of the senior members of the party who joined its ranks in 1923. He was elected a member of the party's Central Committee Politburo at the 11th MPRP Congress. From 1940 until his death, he held the distinguished position of chairman of the presidium of the lesser and great people's Hurals of the MPR. He devoted his entire life to the cause of organizing his people's struggle to build the foundations of socialism in the country and honorably justified the great trust placed in him by the party and people. He made a sizeable contribution to the cause of strengthening the socialist state, developing socialist democracy in the country, broadly involving the working people in public and political life and training the younger generation in a spirit of loyalty to the glorious traditions of the party and people and in a spirit of proletarian internationalism and patriotism, the paper notes.

G. Bumtsend's outstanding services to the party and people were recognized by orders of D. Sukhe Bator and the combat and labor Red Banner. For his important contribution to the cause of strengthening the fraternal friendship between the Mongolian and Soviet people, he was awarded the Soviet Government's order of Lenin and medals. To perpetuate his services, by a 1953 decree of the MPR People's Great Hural Presidium, G. Bumtsend's name was given to the secondary school in Altanbulag and a lumber procuring enterprise in Eru. Today's youth are justifiably proud of the life and revolutionary activities of G. Bumtsend which serve as an example from emulation, UNEN says in conclusion.

CSO: 1820/14

ECONOMIC, CULTURAL PROGRESS NOTED IN SUHBAATAR, UBS AYMAGS

Region of D. Sukhe Bator's Birth

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 4 Sep 81 1445 GMT

[Text] The workers of Suhbaatar Aymag are honoring in a worthy manner the approaching 60th anniversary of the signing of an agreement calling for establishment of friendly relations between Mongolia and Soviet Russia and the historic meeting between V. I. Lenin and D. Sukhe Bator. Suhbaatar Aymag is the region in which the fearless D. Sukhe Bator, great leader of the Mongolian Revolution, was born. The people of this aymag take constant pride in this and consider it a matter of honor to be worthy fellow countrymen of their leader.

Suhbaatar Aymag, situated in Eastern Mongolia, was established in 1942. It was subsequently renamed Suhbaatar Aymag, to perpetuate the memory of D. Sukhe Bator. The city of Baruun-Urt, with a population of more than 11,000, is the aymag's economic, industrial and cultural center.

During the years of people's rule Suhbaatar Aymag has achieved considerable success in economic and cultural development. While prior to victory in the people's revolution of 1921 there were only 100,000 head of livestock in the region, which comprises a large part of the eastern steppes of Mongolia, today communally owned livestock in this aymag total more than 1 million head. Livestock raising is the principal occupation.

Modern industry is also developing here at a rapid pace. At the present time the industrial enterprises in this aymag produce as much in a single day as was produced in the entire year 1943. During the past five-year plan the region's aggregate output volume almost doubled over the preceding five-year plan.

With a radical change in the countenance of the village, a qualitative change has taken place in the area of raising the cultural level and prosperity of the population of Suhbaatar Aymag. Clubhouses, libraries, and mobile motion picture projector units are operating in all somons [sum]. In the last 40 years the number of secondary-school students has increased by more than sevenfold, and television has come to the herdsman's yurt.

Suhbaatar Aymag was awarded the Order of the Polar Star for its great contribution to the development and prosperity of the socialist homeland. The people of this

aymag have time and again been winners in nationwide socialist competition. This region's working people are presently campaigning for successful implementation of historic resolutions of the 18th Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party.

Fruits of Inspired Labor

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 12 Sep 81 1925 GMT

[Text] The working people of Ubs Aymag are standing labor watch in honor of the 60th anniversary of the historic first agreement between Mongolia and Soviet Russia.

The countenance of this region has changed radically in past decades. In 1980 the total number of head of livestock in this aymag increased by 24 percent in comparison with 1981 [sic]. There are 20 modern industrial enterprises operating in this aymag, which produce in three days as much as was produced in this aymag in the entire year 1940.

As is true throughout the country, the fraternal friendship between the Mongolian and Soviet peoples and enormous, comprehensive assistance by the Soviet Union serve as a powerful force speeding up the successful development of Ubs Aymag. Recently Soviet construction crews have built a school complex in Ulaangom, a feed production operation and an irrigation system near the Harhir River. International brigades and crews are operating in Ubs Aymag.

The material and cultural living standards of the working people of this region are steadily rising. At the present time 2.6 times as much goods per capita is being sold in this aymag as 20 years ago. This is due to the continuous growth in the money earnings of rural workers. The residents of this remote aymag utilize modern means of communication and receive television broadcasts on the Ekran-ChM system.

3024
CSO: 1819/2

FALL HARVESTING PROGRESS REPORTED

Hay Harvesting in Mongolia

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 7 Sep 1910 GMT

[Text] The hay harvest in People's Mongolia is approaching completion. Farm workers are endeavoring to gain time during these days, to harvest and put away a maximum quantity of livestock forage on a tight timetable. Their labor motto is "faster and more."

The workers of Hobd, Ubs, Dzabhan and Bayan-Olgii aymags are leading in the labor watch of this republic's hay harvesters. More than half of all specified forage harvesting targets have been met on many farms in agricultural cooperatives in these aymags. Large-scale socialist competition, innovative assimilation of advanced know-how, full and efficient utilization of internal resources and capabilities serve as an important source of labor results achieved by the hay harvesters.

The workers of Ulaanbaatar and other cities of this republic are, as always, offering organized assistance to the farmers in carrying out the harvest.

Status of the Harvest Campaign

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 8 Sep 1920 GMT

[Text] Survey reports from the Central Statistical Administration of the Mongolian People's Republic, published in today's newspapers, acquaint the public with progress in the major harvest operations. As of 1 September, almost 494,000 tons of forage hay were harvested and put away nationwide, comprising more than 40 percent of the year's plan target.

Hay harvesting is proceeding well in Goti-Altay, Dzabhan, Ubs and Hobd aymags, where 63-70 percent of the total hay harvest has been produced. The workers of a number of rural cooperatives in these aymags completed the hay harvesting on schedule. Almost 95,000 tons of hay has been put away for the state crop insurance fund, comprising approximately one half of the year's total volume. State livestock feed farms are fulfilling the plan pertaining to producing various feeds for livestock.

The country's farms have produced more than 3082.4 tons of butter [line overstrike, illegible] the workers of Bayan-Olgii Aymag annual butter production plan.

Other harvest campaigns are also progressing well throughout the country.

Fall Harvest

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 10 Sep 81 1440 GMT

[Text] The fall harvest campaign is gathering momentum in the fields of Mongolia, under conditions of good organization and excellent equipment availability. More than 22,000 tons of grain have already been threshed.

The Dzuunburen State Farm in Selenge Aymag -- our country's principal grain producing region -- was the first farm in the country to begin delivering to the state wheat from the new harvest. A total of 123,000 hectares have been harvested by the separate method up to the present time.

Hay harvesting is proceeding simultaneously. A total of 577,000 tons of livestock forage has been put away. Silage making is proceeding well on the farms.

A total of 15,000 students from all parts of the country are assisting farm workers in the fall harvest.

3024

CSO: 1819/3

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION GOALS

Chandgan State Farm

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1600 GMT 19 Aug 81

[Radio broadcast transcription: "The Virgin Land Chandgan State Farm"]

[Text] The workers of the virgin land Chandgan State Farm of Hentiy Aymag will begin the autumn harvesting season in a few days. The repairmen and machine operators have reported these days the readiness of the grain-harvesting equipment and units to go into the fields. This autumn the virgin land farmers plan to harvest grain from more than 13,000 hectares. In carrying out the harvest campaign they are using the experience of the workers of Ipatovskiy Rayon of Stavropol'skiy Kray in the comprehensive organization of the harvesting of the crop. Moreover, Soviet machine operators help the collective of the state farm in the annual harvest work. Thus, for example, this year nine highly skilled foremen-adjusters, who came from the Soviet Union, along with their Mongolian colleagues readied the harvesting equipment and units for the autumn harvesting season.

The Chandgan State Farm is one of the young virgin land state farms in People's Mongolia. It is not yet 5 years old. It was organized with the technical and economic assistance of the Soviet Union.

"Our virgin land state farm is a symbol of fraternal Mongolian-Soviet friendship, of the unselfish international assistance of the Soviet Union, which is being given to our country in the building of a new society," State Farm Director P. Sambu said in a conversation with a MONTSAME correspondent. "All of its development and achievements are inseparably connected with truly fraternal Soviet assistance and support."

On the eve of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution the Soviet construction workers presented a great gift to the workers of the virgin land Chandgan State Farm. The first section of the state farm was put into operation: a modern workshop for the repair of agricultural machinery, an electric power station, a secondary school for 264 students, kindergartens, a nursery, apartment houses and cultural and personal facilities were opened. In the next few years the second section of the state farm will be completed, after which it will be even bigger and better provided with amenities.

Official Harvest Figures

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1450 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Radio broadcast transcription: "The MPR Central Statistical Bureau Reports"]

[Text] As the MPR Central Statistical Bureau reports, as of 15 August 205,700 tons of hay had been procured in the country, 48,300 tons of green mass were sent to the state fund.

In all 69.9 percent of the combines are standing ready; 2,418.7 tons of butter have been produced in the republic, which is 90.4 tons more than during the same period last year.

Selenge Aymag Grain

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1455 GMT 20 Aug 81

[Radio broadcast transcription: "The Harvesting Has Begun"]

[Text] At the farms of Selenge Aymag--the main granary of the MPR--the harvesting of grains has begun. Nearly 700 combines and more than 1,000 trucks will take part in the current harvesting season here.

At the farms of the region operational headquarters for coordinating the harvesting work and the uniform distribution of equipment and manpower among the brigades and links have been set up and are at work for the purpose of successfully carrying out the harvest. As in preceding years, the Selenge grain growers will continue the introduction in practice of the know-how of their colleagues of Ipatovskiy Rayon. Many leading harvest brigades of the state farms of the aymag have undertaken to thresh up to 20 quintals of grain per hectare. Today the average daily output in many links is 105-120 percent.

Feed Production

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1940 GMT 22 Aug 81

[Radio broadcast transcription: "Advanced Know-How Is the Basis of Success"]

[Text] A model school of advanced know-how in the irrigation of pastures and hayfields is being held these days in a number of aymags of Mongolia. "Advanced Know-How Is the Basis of Success" is its motto.

The participants in the model schools are sharing their experience of work on procuring feed for livestock, increasing the area of irrigated lands planted with feed crops and boosting the yield of hayfields and are examining questions of the creative assimilation and adoption of advanced know-how and progressive methods in this area.

The strengthening of the feed base is one of the most important factors of the steady growth of animal husbandry in the MPR. During the current Seventh Five-Year Plan a large program of operations, which are aimed at the increase of

fodder production and the enlargement of the hayfields, will be implemented. By the end of the present five-year plan the production of fodders will increase 1.7-fold as against 1980. Great importance is being attached here to the most complete, efficient use of the already existing internal reserves and potentials for increasing the production of fodders and improving their quality.

Bulgan Aymag Grain

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1930 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Radio broadcast transcription: "The Harvesting Season in Mongolia"]

[Text] The farmers of People's Mongolia are having a busy time: the harvesting season has begun at many farms and rural cooperatives.

The machine operators of Bulgan Aymag have begun the harvesting of the crop of the first year of the five-year plan. In a short time they have to harvest the crop from 28,600 hectares and to gather more than 45,000 tons of grain. The workers of the "Shine Amidral" (New Life) Agricultural Cooperative and of the "Magsarjab" State Farm, which last year took first place in the harvesting of grain in the republic, are having the best success in the harvest work. The machine operators of the region are using extensively in everyday work the know-how of the grain growers of Ipatovskiy Rayon of Stavropol'skiy Kray in the USSR.

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION MEETS EXPORT, DOMESTIC OBJECTIVES

Mongolian Industry for Export

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 28 Aug 81 1525 GMT

[Text] More than 20 excellent-quality industrial products have been added to the Mongolian export list during the last five-year plan. Products manufactured for export by the industry of the MPR are inconsiderable demand in the international market-place due to their excellent quality. During this period the number of product items certified to first quality category has increased ninefold, while the volume of products awarded the state Seal of Quality has increased 4.3-fold.

The role of socialist industry in the economy of the MPR is growing to an ever increasing extent. Today it accounts for more than 40 percent of aggregate social product, 29 percent of generated national income, and 70 percent of MPR export.

Economic Review

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 10 Sep 81 1445 GMT

[Text] The working people of the MPR, inspired by the historic resolutions of the 28th Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, reports the newspaper UNEN, are achieving considerable success in the first year of the new five-year plan.

The newspaper reports that this year farmers raised 600,000 head more of young livestock than last year. Plan targets pertaining to selling meat, milk, wool, and other livestock products to the state are being successfully fulfilled. Farm workers are performing shock-work labor in the crop harvest and hay mowing.

The work forces of industrial enterprises and economic organizations of the MPR have made a fine start in the first year of the five-year plan. In the first eight months of the year industry has produced 260 million tugriks more output than during the corresponding period of last year. Industry has overfulfilled the gross output plan for the first eight months of the year by 4.5 percent.

3024

CSO: 1819/5

BUILDING MATERIALS INDUSTRY, RURAL CONSTRUCTION EXPAND

Building Materials Industry

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 28 Aug 81 1520 GMT

[Text] The large-scale capital construction activities in the MPR require further strengthening of the material-technical base of the building materials industry. A total of 1.6 billion tugriks was allocated for this purpose in the last five-year plan, a considerably larger figure than in the preceding five-year plan.

A number of new facilities for the production of large-panel buildings, bricks, reinforced concrete products, wall and other materials were built and brought on-stream with these funds. A major program for retooling and renovating existing enterprises in this branch of industry has been carried out. As a result of these and other measures, this industry's gross output volume has increased by 50 percent. Alongside employment of such local building materials as keramzit [a lightweight concrete aggregate], tuff, alabaster and lime, there has been a substantial increase in production of large-panel structures and other advanced building materials. During the years of the past five-year plan production of reinforced concrete products increased by 13 percent, with a 27 percent increase in wall materials and a 17 percent increase in lumber. Large numbers of young skilled workers have joined the ranks of this industry's work force. In the last five-year plan more than 12,000 specialists with higher education and graduates of vocational schools were directed into the construction industry.

Agricultural Construction

Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 31 Aug 81 1920 GMT

[Text] The pace of rural construction in People's Mongolia is increasing year by year. Dozens of new facilities are completed each year on the central farmsteads of state farms, agricultural cooperatives, livestock feed farms and interassociation cooperatives, in their departments, brigades and livestock units. Modern cities, towns and villages, with all the amenities, are being built in the rural areas of the MPR by Mongolian and Soviet construction workers. Construction of housing is being conducted on a large scale in this country's rural areas.

Construction projects of the new, Seventh Five-Year Plan include, in addition to large industrial enterprises in urban areas, a number of virgin-land state farms,

livestock feed farms, as well as cultural and domestic services facilities. In particular, Ekran television systems will be installed during the five-year plan in more than 100 of this republic's rural communities. Thanks to this, by the end of the five-year plan approximately 60 percent of the country's population will be able to watch television.

3024

CSO: 1819/6

BRIEFS

CONFERENCE ENDS--A regional conference on an expanded program of immunization of the population of Southeast Asia ended today in the Mongolian capital. Medical personnel from nine countries in the region -- Bangladesh, Burma, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and other countries -- took part in the conference. Doctor Zh. Kupul, director of the Institute of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Microbiology of the MPR Ministry of Health, stated in an interview with a MONTSAME correspondent that the considerable successes achieved by specialists in the nations of Southeast Asia, including the MPR, in the area of prevention of various contagious diseases among the population, were noted at the conference. Zh. Kupul stressed that thanks to assistance by the Soviet Union, a well balanced sanitation-epidemiological service system has been established in Mongolia, which has made it possible totally to eradicate a number of dangerous infectious diseases among this country's population, such as polio and diphtheria, for example. The Mongolian scientist stated that cases of dysentery have been reduced to a minimum. The conferees adopted recommendations on further improving measures in the area of immunization of the population in the countries of Southeast Asia. [Text] [Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 28 Aug 81 1510 GMT] 3024

ALTANGEREL RECEIVES HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR--B. Altangerel, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and First Secretary of the Ulaanbaatar City Committee of the MPRP, today received J. Szerencses, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Hungarian People's Republic to the Mongolian People's Republic, at the latter's request, and had a friendly conversation with him. [Text] [Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 11 Sep 81 2025 GMT] 3024

ARRIVAL OF GDR AMBASSADOR--Heinz Bauer, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the GDR to the MPR, arrived today. The ambassador was met at Buyant-Uhaa airport by N. Chantsal, acting chief of the protocol department of the MPR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Text] [Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 11 Sep 81 2030 GMT] 3024

RETAIL GOODS FAIR OPENING--Ulaanbaatar, 31 Aug (MONTSAME)--The traditional "Retail Fair-81" exhibition opened today in the exhibition halls of the central stadium in Ulaanbaatar. On display are products and goods manufactured by enterprises of the MPR's light and food industries. They include carpets decorated with national motifs, knitted and fur products, various household goods, joinery products and furniture, and so forth. Opening the exhibition, P. Jasray, first deputy chairman of the MPR State Planning Commission and minister of the MPR, said the main goal of the present traditional "Retail Fair" exhibition lies in successfully realizing the tasks proposed by the 18th MPRP Congress, which are aimed at further expanding national industry and raising the quality of the products it manufactures. The opening of the exhibition was attended by D. Gombojab, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee, and T. Ragchaa, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers. [Text] [OW021339 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1915 GMT 31 Aug 81]

DELEGATION TO CUBA--Ulaanbaatar, 9 Sep (MONTSAME)--A delegation headed by academician S. Bira, chairman of the executive committee of the Mongolian parliamentary group, left here today for Havana. The delegation will take part in the regular 68th conference of the Interparliamentary Union. [Text] [Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1515 GMT 9 Sep 81]

JAGBARAL, SRV, ENVOY--Ulaanbaatar, 31 Aug (MONTSAME)--N. Jagbaral, candidate member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the MPR People's Great Hural Presidium, today received Cao Kien Thiet, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to the MPR, and had a warm and friendly talk with him. [Text] [OW091643 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1926 GMT 31 Aug 81]

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